MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Permitting and Compliance Division
Waste and Underground Tank Management Bureau
Solid Waste Section
Metcalf Building
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901

CHECK LIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

1. Current facility name: Sure-Way Systems of Montana

   Name of transferor: Sure-Way Systems of Montana

   Address of facility: 107 South Parkmont
   Butte, MT 59701

   New facility name: Stericycle, Inc.

   Name of transferee/applicant: Stericycle, Inc.

   Address of transferee/applicant: 28161 N. Keith Drive
   Lake Forest, IL 60045

   Facility telephone: 406-494-8460

2. This application is for a:
   ☐ solid waste landfill ☐ transfer station ☐ resource recovery or processing facility
   ☒ other: *License transfer to new owner of Infectious Waste Treatment Facility*

3. a) Legal description of location: Section 18, T2N, R7W, M.P.M.

   b) General description of facility location: In Butte, south on Harrison Avenue becoming Basin Creek Road, right onto South Parkmont off of Basin Creek Road, then right into facility entrance.

4. If the applicant does not own the property, give name and address of lessor who holds title to the property: Applicant owns the property.

5. Total acreage of system: 1.21 acres

6. Population and service area: The applicant plans to service the immediate and extended area around the facility. This market includes the Montana, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming and Canadian areas.

   Tonnage to be accepted per year: The maximum capacity based upon the current facility design is approximately 5,890 tons per year. The maximum capacity based upon the proposed upgraded facility design is 12,200 tons per year.

7. Description of the benefits and purpose of the proposed action:
   a) The facility is an existing facility that has been licensed by the Department's Solid Waste Program for 15 years. The proposed action consists of the transfer of the solid waste license to the new facility owner and the establishment of a new facility name.

8. Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives whenever alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider:

Following the Department's finding that the Stericycle, Inc.'s license transfer application was complete, the Department considered two alternatives in the preparation of this checklist EA:

Alternative A. Deny the license transfer as proposed by the applicant— the "no action alternative". If this alternative were chosen, the applicant could:

1. Close the facility. This is not a preferred alternative because it would place a burden on the medical systems currently using the facility. There are no other facilities in the state that have the capacity to handle all of the state's medical waste. The medical systems would be forced to locate a new waste treatment facility outside the state. This would add the burden of additional treatment costs and additional transportation on public roads in the state to out-of-state facilities.

Alternative B. Approve the license transfer as proposed by the applicant. Several factors support the viability of this option:

1. The facility has been licensed by the Department since 1993 and has a 15-year history of waste treatment in compliance with the Montana solid waste laws and rules.
2. There is an ongoing need for the economical treatment and disposal of medical waste in the state.
3. The applicant owns and operates approximately 45 similar treatment facilities in North America.

9. A listing and appropriate evaluation of mitigation, stipulations and other controls enforceable by the agency or another government agency.

The proposed facility must meet the minimum requirements of the Montana Solid Waste Management Act and the rules promulgated under that Act as well as State and County subdivision and County zoning regulations.

IMPACTS

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	Major	Moderate	Minor	No	Unknown	Attached
1. TOPOGRAPHY: Are there unusual geologic features?				**X**		
Will the surface features be changed?				**X**		
2. GEOLOGY & SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY & MOISTURE: Are fragile, compactible or unstable soils present?				**X**		
Are there special reclamation considerations?				**X**		
3. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY & DISTRIBUTION: Are important surface or ground water resources present?				**X**		
Is there potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality?				X		
4. AIR QUALITY: Will pollutants or particulate be produced?				X		
Is the project influenced by air quality regulations or zones (Class I airshed)?				**X**		
5. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OR LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY: Will the project use resources that are limited in the area?				**X**		
Are there other activities nearby that will affect the project?				**X**		
6. IMPACTS ON OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are there other studies, plans or projects on this tract?				**X**		
7. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN, AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS: Is there substantial use of the area by important wildlife, birds or fish?				**X**		
8. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY & QUALITY: Will vegetative communities be permanently altered?				X		
Are any rare plants or cover types present?				**X**		
9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are any federally listed threatened or endangered species or identified habitat present?				**X**		
Any wetlands?				**X**		
Any species of special concern?				**X**		
10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE: Are any historical, archaeological or paleontological resources present?				**X**		
11. AESTHETICS: Is the project on a prominent topographical feature?				**X**		
Will it be visible from populated or scenic areas?				**X**		
Will there be excessive noise, light or odors?				X		
12. AGRICULTURE: Will grazing lands, irrigation waters or crop production be affected?				X		

IMPACTS

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT	Major	Moderate	Minor	No	Unknown	Attached
1. SOCIAL STRUCTURES & MORES: Is some disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities possible?				**X**		
2. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS & DIVERSITY: Will the action cause a shift in some unique quality of the area?				**X**		
3. DENSITY & DISTRIBUTION OR POPULATION & HOUSING: Will the project add to the population and require additional housing?				**X**		
4. HUMAN HEALTH & SAFETY: Will this project add to health and safety risks in the area?				**X**		
5. COMMUNITY & PERSONAL INCOME: Will the facility generate or degrade income?			X	**X**		X
6. QUANTITY & DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT: Will the project create, move or eliminate jobs?			X	**X**		X
If so, estimate number.						
7. LOCAL & STATE TAX BASE REVENUES: Will the project create or eliminate tax revenue?				**X**		
8. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Will substantial traffic be added to existing roads?				**X**		
Will other services (fire protection, police, schools, etc.) be needed?				**X**		
9. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES & PRODUCTION: Will the project add to or alter these activities?				X		
10. ACCESS TO & QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL & WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES: Are wilderness or recreational areas nearby or accessed through this tract?				**X**		
Is there recreational potential within the tract?				**X**		
11. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS & GOALS: Are there state, county, city, USFS, BLM, tribal, etc., zoning or management plans in effect?				**X**		
12. TRANSPORTATION: Will the project affect local transportation networks and traffic flows?			**X**			**X**

10. Recommendation:

The recommended action is to approve the license transfer application.

11. If an EIS is needed, and if appropriate, explain the reasons for preparing the EA:

Due to the absence of significant potential environmental impacts as indicated by this checklist environmental assessment, the Department finds that an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary.

12. If an EIS is not required, explain why the checklist EA is an appropriate level of analysis:

The Department finds that transfer of the solid waste management system license to the applicant would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The facility has been licensed by the Department since 1993 and has a 15-year history of waste treatment in compliance with the Montana solid waste laws and rules.

There are expected to be no potential impacts to surface water resources, terrestrial and aquatic life, vegetation and other aspects of the physical environment, and the impact to the human environment, if any, is expected to be minor. Thus, a checklist Environmental Assessment is an adequate document to address potential impacts of the proposed solid waste management system license transfer.

13. Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction:

none

14. Individuals or groups contributing to this EA:

Stericycle, Inc.

Checklist EA prepared by:

Mary Louise Hendrickson - *Montana DEQ, Permitting and Compliance Division, Waste and Underground Tank Management Bureau, Solid Waste Program*

Date: July 1, 2008

IMPACTS TO THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

5. COMMUNITY & PERSONAL INCOME: Will the facility generate or degrade income?

The facility may generate additional income in the community. The facility plans to add two additional autoclaves to increase the medical waste treatment capacity. As a result, additional personnel may be required to handle the receipt of additional wastes for treatment.

6. QUANTITY & DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT: Will the project create, move or eliminate jobs?

The facility may create additional jobs as the facility capacity and hours of operation are increased.

12. TRANSPORTATION: Will the project affect local transportation networks and traffic flows?

There may be an increase in traffic flow once the facility capacity is increased and the hours of operation are increased. The impact is expected to be minor however. The facility is located within an area zoned for industrial use, and as such, truck traffic is a common occurrence.